

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee Meeting
September 29, 2021
10:33-11:34 AM

Committee Members

This meeting was held by WebEx pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders and Mayoral Emergency Proclamations suspending and modifying requirements for in-person meetings. During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emergency, the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee (OCOH) will convene remotely until the Committee is legally authorized to meet in person.

Note: The Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee meetings are live streamed at SFGovTV.org. The agenda, video recording, audio recording, and caption notes are posted at https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=209. Supporting materials including presentations and reports are posted at <https://sfcontroller.org/meetings/220>.

1) **Call to Order/Roll Call.**

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 AM

Roll Call:

Member Andrews: Present
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Present
Member Friedenbach: Present
Member Leadbetter: Joined late
Member Miller: Present
Member Reggio: Present
Chair Williams: Present

Quorum confirmed.

2) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Discussion of implementation of OCOH funded case management services at Adult Probation Department program for justice-involved adults, with possible action by the Committee. (50 min)

Deputy City Attorney Jon Givner introduced Committee's Oversight role and function. These include soliciting input from the public to ensure transparency, conducting needs assessments, reviewing the services that are funded by OCOH Fund to ensure consistency and accountability, advising the Board and the Mayor on funding and implementation of OCOH.

Deputy City Attorney Givner said that the OCOH Fund conceptualizes the Oversight Committee as advisors to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor, not to City Departments. Like the Board of Supervisors, OCOH Oversight Committee Members cannot involve themselves in the administrative affairs of City Departments such as hiring or contracting. Also, like the Board of Supervisors, Committee Members' communication with Departments should be directed to the Department Head, or their designee. If the Committee wants to communicate with a Department, staff can facilitate. These rules apply any time the Committee Members are functioning in their role as a Committee Member, for OCOH, or as a Liaison, but not when acting as a private citizen.

Steve Adami, Director of Re-Entry Services at the Adult Probation Department, introduced his team and partners. These include Dr. Mary Ann Jones of Westside Community Services, Craig Johnson

of Positive Directions Equals Change, Cedric Akbar of Westside Community Services, and Interim Chief Sharon Jackson.

Interim Chief Jackson described her experience and the mission of the re-entry programs. She said that San Francisco is leading the nation in implementing evidence-based practices.

Director Adami presented information about the Re-Entry Division of the Adult Probation Department and plans for the navigation center for justice involved adults. Slides from this presentation can be found [here](#).

Member Reggio asked what components of the program the OCOH Fund is supporting. Director Adami responded that the OCOH Fund is supporting 24 hour on-site clinical staff. It is not the full budget of the Navigation Center. Director Adami can provide the overall budget for the project at the Committee's request.

Member Friedenbach asked whether the operations manual is accurate. She said that a navigation center is a low-threshold program model defined by ordinance, and the manual does not conform with that model. Director Adami said that he was not familiar with the term, "navigation center." Now that they know it is a model defined by ordinance, he and the community-based partner are revising the manual to align with the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH)'s definition, policies and best practices for Navigation Centers.

Member Andrews asked whether the behavioral health services at the center are funded by DPH, and/or what role DPH could play. Director Adami said that DPH does not fund any of the behavioral health services. The Division work orders funding to DPH for two licensed clinicians to provide one-on-one therapy. The Division also contracts with UCSF to provide 14 licensed clinicians. Westside Community Services provides mental health services at the proposed site of this program.

Vice Chair D'Antonio shared her questions: Will participants have cellphones taken away? Will participants be able to leave without a chaperone? Will participants have their information shared with law enforcement? Will participants get in trouble for smoking weed? Is this a navigation center? Director Adami said the program will be in line with HSH policies, it will be low threshold, the manual is being updated and will be shared.

Wesley Brenner, a clinical supervisor from Citywide, gave a public comment. He said his organization's partnership with the Adult Probation Department has improved outcomes for justice involved people by addressing gaps in care between criminal justice and public health systems.

Emiline with the Citywide probation team gave a public comment. She said the partnership between Citywide and the Adult Probation Department has been critical to providing services to clients with complicated needs who often fall through the cracks. Those clients will benefit from adding housing as a resource.

Tracy Watson, Director of Sister's Circle Women's Support Network, made a public comment. She said that individuals who are trying to get clean, struggle in harm reduction settings.

Aaron Burriss, Business Director of Inside Circle, said he has a history of being justice involved, but now runs a national nonprofit. He said that nation-wide, San Francisco's APD is doing the better than any urban city at delivering services that produce real change in people's lives. He said that they get involved and make a difference.

Laura Guzman, Senior Director of Capacity Building and Community Mobilization for the Harm Reduction Coalition, gave a public comment. She said that a low threshold, harm reduction approach is essential to housing first. She asked that the program not penalize drug use by

participants and that it integrates overdose prevention and intervention to make sure the re-entry community stays safe.

Adrian Maldonado with Choices program and a former heroin addict gave a public comment. He said the structure of Adult Probation's approach is unique because it relies on community partners. He expressed concern about professionalized people telling communities that they know better. Adrian Maldonado said that low threshold concepts keep people dependent on the state and constantly engaged with the system.

A Bayview community member gave public comment. He said he values community-centric programming because the people served are friends and family. He said that different approaches are necessary to meet the community's needs.

Nick San Lozaro, a San Francisco Probation Officer and president of the Probation Officer's Union, gave public comment. He described changes in the department over his 20-year tenure. He said that giving people housing changes their lives.

Christine of the No New SF Jail Coalition gave public comment. She said that communication restrictions undermine program participants' social supports and ability to find jobs. She said restrictions on movement are paternalistic and extend carceral surveillance. She asked the Committee to reallocate these funds to a real navigation center.

Natalie Cabusa, a Willie Brown Junior Fellow, gave public comment. She worked with the Citywide and Adult Probation Team and said that their approach is working.

Joi Jackson Morgan, the Executive Director of 3rd Street Youth Center and San Francisco native, gave public comment. She said that San Francisco needs a wide variety of services and a diverse portfolio of housing that can make a difference in people's lives. This program is led by the community and funded by the Adult Probation Department. She said it is beautiful, equitable, and humane.

Alex Wyle, Director of the UCSF Citywide Probation Team, gave public comment. He said that with the support of APD, they are developing a national model for developing partnerships that reach this underserved population.

Earl Sims, Regional Director of the Timelist Group in Southern California gave public comment. He said that he toured the site, and thinks the program is innovative and fill gaps.

A caller gave a public comment. He said that justice involved people need more resources, and so he said he supports the program even if it only serves one person a year.

Member Friedenbach said that the funding for this project was not in jeopardy. The conversation was about what was originally recommended as a shelter program and the implementation of a program that appeared to be a substance abuse treatment program.

- 3) Discussion Item/Possible Action:
Committee discussion of items for future meeting agendas, with possible action by the Committee.

The Chair tabled this agenda item.

4) ***Adjourn***

Vice Chair D'Antonio moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Andrews seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Andrews: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The meeting adjourned at 11:34AM.